

TUSD Distance Teaching Assignment

Frequently Asked Questions

Volume: 1

FAQ:

Q: Why do teachers need to choose distance or in-person teaching for this school year?

A: Due to the pandemic, State officials demanded school districts give students the option to distance learn 100% of the day, and try to accommodate employees who need to work from home so as not to put themselves or their family members at greater risk.

Q: What criteria or information should teachers use to make this decision?

A: This decision should be made based on the health and safety needs of one's self and/or family, and not solely on convenience or preference.

Q: If I chose distance teaching can I change my mind when/if the 'COVID spike' comes down and schools reopen?

A: If one chooses to be a distance teacher, they should be prepared to distance teach for the entire 2020-21 school year, or as long as student population demands. Reevaluation will take place throughout the year and some changes may be too disruptive to make.

Q: As a distance learning teacher, will I be able to only teach students from my school?

A: There may be students from your school in the distance learning class, but there may also be students from other schools as well.

Q: How will distance learning be handled by the special education department?

A: You will continue to work with the special education staff to follow the IEP, including working with program specialists, psychologists, counselors, and your principal.

Q: Will someone take my school site case load if I become a distance teacher, and possibly occupy my classroom?

A: Yes. Your in-person, on campus case load will be taught by an in-person teacher and there may be a need to utilize your classroom, based on school facility needs.

Q: If I become a distance learning teacher will I lose my position at my current school?

A: Distance learning teachers will be temporarily reassigned for this school year only, and your position at the home school will be restored once this school year is complete.

Q: Will I have access to my physical classroom?

A: If you are a distance learning teacher by request, due to one of the health and safety categories your request was based on, you will, most likely, not have access to your physical room in order to minimize any risk to your health. Please prepare accordingly.

Q: Will teachers be allowed to choose the grade level they prefer to teach?

A: The grade level assignment will depend on student population and need in the distance learning space. You will teach within your credentialed area but grade level choice may be limited.

Q: Will distance teachers receive ETIS support?

A: Yes

Q: Will distance teaching class sizes be different from in-person teachers?

A: Class size rules will be the same as in-person teachers. Class size is determined by the TTA/TUSD collective bargaining agreement.

Q: Will distance teachers also be able to meet as a group and participate in PLC?

A: Yes, however virtually.

Q: Who will be my administrator if I am distance teacher?

A: At this time your current site administrator will be, although that may change depending on the distance learning program or as assignment needs are determined overall.

Q: When school reopens will we still follow all of the COVID-19 safety protocols?

A: Yes, we will follow updated Los Angeles County Department of Health safety protocols including PPE, as required and recommended by health officials.

Q: If I choose distance or in-person teaching, and my class numbers drop, will it impact my salary or benefits?

A: No.

Q: As a distance teacher, what will my assignment be and what courses will I be teaching?

A: The courses you teach will be within your credentialed area, but the exact course will be determined based on student or course offering need, much like a master schedule.

Q: Will Distance learning teachers be able to design and implement their own lesson plans and material and still receive district supplemental lesson modules?

A: Yes. A distance teacher is still the teacher of record with a roster of students, responsible for student instruction.

Q: Will distance learning teachers be under a different contract than in-person teachers?

A: No. All teachers in TUSD work under the same contract and salary schedule. A distance learning teacher will have the same work year and daily expectation as an in-person teacher.

Q: If I choose to be a distance teacher, can I get access to my classroom for supplies?

A: Yes. However access would be limited. You should request [access](#) to your classroom prior to the beginning of the school year and via your site administrator.

Q: If I choose to be a Distance Learning Teacher but am not selected, what are my options if I have health issues or am not confident that my health and safety can be protected if/when school reopens?

A: Your options would be an un-paid personal leave of absence, FFCRA leave, medical leave, or resignation. The district will work with each employee to ensure that all protocols and safety measure are put in place and enforced as per the DPH, for in-person instruction.

Q: If I choose to be an in-person teacher, could I be reassigned school sites (excess)?

A: Yes. Excess could occur if sites have the need to move teachers due to master schedule need or student enrollment. This school site reassignment would be temporary and reevaluated at the end of this school year.